



## September 2012 newsletter

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### Vice Commodore's report

As I sit writing this with the evenings closing in and the morning almost cold enough for frost, I cannot help but wonder where the summer went? I had been feeling rather depressed that summer had passed and activity levels on the lake had been lower than we usually see – but then I looked at the statistics of the number of boats entering the racing series, and the great results of many of our members around the National Championships and I begin to realise that Chew sailors are thriving. Add this to the undoubted boost the fantastic Olympics will give to all sports and I begin to feel very positive about this year, and the future.

In terms of club events, the family regatta, racing regatta and August Antics have all been great successes. It has been wonderful to see the lake so busy for these events.

Over the summer, our ever popular Wednesday evening series has taken place, with 166 boats entering at least one race.

The weather was very variable throughout the series and proved challenging conditions for all. Overall winners were:

A handicap: Ian Cadwallader and Nick Stone (Flying fifteen)

Laser: Duncan Whitrow

B handicap: Chris Goldhawk (Solo)

Also during the summer, in the mornings, the Admiral's Chase is an all-in handicap series which was won by



### What's on

7 October	Topper Open
10 October	AGM
13 October	RS200 Ugly Tour
14 October	Visitors' Day, RNLi trophies and Top Club
19 October	Quiz night—racing rules
10 November	Annual prize giving dinner
18 November	Steve Morris memorial race
30 November	Wine and cheese evening
1 & 2 December	Bristol Brew (universities event)
26 December	TAP Trophy
1 January	Resolution Trophy
8 February	Olympic speaker from TeamGB

Steve Smith in his Laser. In the afternoon points series, the winners were:

A handicap: Peter Rose and Fiona Wisloff

Flying Fifteen: Doug and Gail Patterson

Laser: John Lewis

B handicap: Andy Hewitt

It was also good to see an increasing number of juniors out in their Toppers and Fevas participating in the afternoon racing.

The 'Age' trophies were competed for on 9 September and produced the following winners:

Under 17- Henry Martindale and Julian Widdecombe

Under 35 – Ian Mclean

35-44 - Steve Jones

45-54 - Tony Freer

55-65 - John Smalley

Over 64 - Max Passmore

On the same day in the afternoon, the full length pursuit race for the club's Anniversary cup took place. It must be good testament to the course and Peter Rose's work on handicapping that the top five places were taken by different classes of boat ranging from a Solo to a Cherub. The race was won by Ian Cadwallader and Bill Chard in a Flying Fifteen with the RS200 of Tony and Zach Freer in second place.

Away from the club, members have been busy travelling for major championships and have done very well. I have managed to pick out many of our results from the class websites, but apologies to any I have missed: Notable National/European results were:

Albacore - Steve Penfold crew in the winning boat – and now goes on to sail in the 'champion of champions' Endeavour Trophy – well done and Good Luck!

Cherub Nationals - Paul Croote and Rich Hole – 6<sup>th</sup>/23

Fireball Worlds - Derian and Andy Scott 15<sup>th</sup>/64 and first lady

Fireball Europeans – Derian and Andy Scott 13<sup>th</sup>/106 and first lady

Flying Fifteen Nationals – Mike Thompson and Simon Millington 13<sup>th</sup>/33

Flying Fifteen Europeans - Ian Cadwallader and Dave Sweet 14<sup>th</sup>/35

Laser Nationals – full rig, Richard Cumpsty 23<sup>rd</sup>/56

Radial , Ed Jones - 6<sup>th</sup>/47

Masters, Peter Sherwin -

12<sup>th</sup>/43

RS100 Nationals – Dave Smart 12<sup>th</sup> and Simon Bennett 14<sup>th</sup> out of 37

Scorpion Nationals – Peter and John Rose 7<sup>th</sup>/57

Solo Nationals - Chris Goldhawk 12<sup>th</sup>/78

Topper 5.3 Nationals - Ellie Cumpsty 22<sup>nd</sup>, Oli Martindale 37<sup>th</sup>, Jess Harding 38<sup>th</sup> out of 260! Topper

4.2 Nationals- Freya Cumpsty 8<sup>th</sup>/27

Well done to all of the above, and indeed to all of our members who have been to major championships and open meetings, and who have so successfully represented Chew.

Please don't forget that it is the club's annual prize giving evening on Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> November so make a note in your diaries of the opportunity to come to the club for supper and to celebrate the successes of the year - more details will be sent out nearer the time.

Looking forward, at the end of September ( 29<sup>th</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup>), we host the RYA South West Championships where the budding future Olympians gather under the eyes of the coaches for a major end of year event. There will no club sailing this weekend



due to the number of visitors and the need for all of our safety resources to cover the event. This is followed by a local Topper open meeting on 7 October (where we expect to also run a class race day for club sailors), and an RS200 open on 13<sup>th</sup> October with visitors' day on the 14<sup>th</sup>.

The Autumn series is also about to start and the 'fifth' start for each race will be for Toppers and Fevas, so we hope to see more of these boats competing and hopefully some of the younger members who have done so well in the training and various squads will participate and further develop our youth sailing at Chew.

So, that brings you up to date on the club sailing. I hope to see as many of you as possible on the water – let's keep our fingers crossed for a mild Autumn with decent breezes, particularly as the lake is so full.

Simon Chapman  
Vice Commodore. Solo 5353



## Laser fleet activities

The last newsletter was in May, four months have whizzed by and it's been a busy summer for everyone. Given that so many of us have commitments and interests elsewhere and that the weather hasn't always been the most conducive, the turnout for racing and general sailing has been pretty good and, as always, there has been close competition and good fun. A few new faces appeared on Thursday evenings and at Lake and Cake and I hope you will feel encouraged to join in the racing when conditions and family commitments suit you. All the results are on the website but a few series and special events warrant a little more detail.

The Wednesday evening series saw nineteen of us qualifying for the series and a further seventeen sailing at least once. Duncan Whitrow returned to top spot winning seven races and counting two 2nds to qualify, ending up with just 11 points. 2<sup>nd</sup> 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> place were only separated by 5 points: Steve Smith 2<sup>nd</sup> with 20 points, Pete Sherwin 3<sup>rd</sup> with 21 and Julian Cooke 4<sup>th</sup> with 25. Giles Vallis and Damian Boreham moved into the top 10 from positions in the 20s last year and Giles is to be congratulated on a Wednesday evening win – very special!!



Well done to Steve Smith for

winning the Admiral's Chase, and to Andy Bassett, Martin Jeremy and Jeremy Millward, all in the top ten. As you will read elsewhere, Lasers were well represented at the Jubilee race weekend and the Olympic regatta, And finally for "at home" series, there were 3 qualifiers for Summer points: Jonathan Lewis, Martin Jeremy and Jeremy Millward.

Further afield Pete Sherwin continues to enjoy and do well at the Masters events. At the Nationals in the standard rig fleet he was 4<sup>th</sup> Grand Master and 12<sup>th</sup> overall. I must include though, his entry and heroic performance at the Sail for Gold regatta in Weymouth in June. An event, open to anyone, it attracts the world's top sailors and particularly so this year for reasons I don't need to explain. I was helping on the beach team (trolley dolly) so can attest to the very challenging conditions - strong winds, heavy rain, cold and a very long sail out to the middle of Weymouth Bay and back. Important to note here that most of the sailors had their coach in a rib with extra clothing, food etc. I think he knew what he was letting himself in for, Steve Cockerill had told him all about his own experiences in 2011! Pete did fantastically well to complete the series and what a year to have taken part.



At the time of writing (mid September), Ellie Cumpsty and Ed Jones have just shown us what excellent sailors they are and how fast a radial can go (Steve Smith and Julian Cooke gave them excellent competition) and it is great to have them sailing at the club when they can. Both are in top national squads so have commitments elsewhere as well as the demands of school. Here is a brief summary of their activities this summer:

Ed went to the Europeans at Nieuwpoort in Holland, coming 52<sup>nd</sup> out of 200, and to the Nationals in Abersoch where he was much happier with an impressive 6<sup>th</sup> place. Ellie Cumpsty was one of only two Under 18 girls to be selected for the EUROSAF youth sailing championship in Aarhus, Denmark and for the Radial Youth Worlds in Brisbane. In Aarhus she was 4<sup>th</sup> Under 17 and 28<sup>th</sup> of 80 overall and in Brisbane she was again 4<sup>th</sup> under 17 (just missing a medal) and 16<sup>th</sup> overall. We look forward to following their exploits and to seeing them at Chew when they are able.

Also at the time of writing Jonathan Lewis is in Spain at the Masters Europeans, no doubt a little warmer than we were last weekend!

Whether you are a regular racer, an occasional racer or a happy cruising sailor I wish you good weather and happy sailing. Do come and talk to me at the club or get in touch by phone or email.

## Push the boat out weekend

Although it had been a long time coming, the British Summer arrived in style to greet the Olympic themed weekend of events at Chew Valley Lake Sailing Club with perfect conditions.

On Saturday there was just enough wind to disperse the competitors for Chew's 'Push the Boat Out Day' 'Round the Island Race' and although it dropped off in the afternoon this made the Ferry trips over to the magical Denny Island even more fun. In support of Team GBR the Club had nearly 100 different boats on the water and Union Jack bunting and fancy dress were the order of the day. There were pirates in abundance including the infamous Cap'n Denny and a secret treasure hunt.

There were prizes galore and the majority of our young sailors went home proudly displaying their winnings or clutching onto treasure. Top prize for the day went to Charlie Fowler who was the first of the Optibats over the line closely followed by Mary and Alex Haynes. Errol Edwards also won a special prize for winning the fleet of 65 competitors on handicap - and by kidnapping Cap'n Denny from his very own island.

Alex Timms the RYA Activator at the club said: 'Special thanks go to all the volunteers who made this wonderfully happy day possible in particular to the team who first cleared Denny Island of its nettles and overgrowth and then organised the special landings in the afternoon'.

On Sunday the wind blew up to force three gusting four for Chew's very own Olympic Games. The day started with three Class Race Day style heats and then the top two winners from each fleet competed for the medals in a special finals race. Event Race Officer Keith Harris set a Windward / Leeward course and the finish couldn't have been more exciting or closer. Tony and Zach Freer beat Bill Chard's Flying Fifteen by just 2 seconds to win third place and Bronze whilst Steve Smith pipped Damian Boreham's Firefly by just 1 second to win the coveted Gold Medal.

All in all it was the most fantastic weekend of family fun, great racing and support of both the RYA and our Olympic Team - 'congratulations to everyone at Chew Valley Lake Sailing Club'.



## Sail for gold torch race

Chew Valley Lake Sailing Club held its first Olympic style event in May to celebrate the passing of the Olympic Torch through the Somerset region as part of their RYA 'Sail for Gold' campaign.

A total of 66 boats raced in three fleets and the weather at the start of the evening was glorious - brilliant sunshine and a fairly constant 8 knots of wind from the south west.

Experienced Race Officer Keith Harris set an Olympic style course and each of the fleets started perfectly on time.

However, contrary to the forecasts, the wind was already beginning to fade and became increasingly fickle as the races progressed with wind indicators going round in circles, runs becoming beats, beats becoming runs - and frequently both on the same leg of the course.

The order of the day was to look outside the boat and at the bigger picture of the patches of wind dotting themselves haphazardly around the lake.

The winners of the evening were those who were able to spot, anticipate and sail into these areas of pressure and then try to maintain their momentum through the numerous holes.

The special prize for the evening, the RYA Olympic Torch went to Freya Cumpsty who won Gold in the 13 years and under category sailing a Topper whilst her elder sister Ellie won Gold in the 18 years and under category sailing a Laser.

Peter Rose sailing with Fiona Wisloff won a very convincing Gold in the A Handicap Fleet sailing his Scorpion, followed by Dave Sweet and Jackie Ireland in an RS 200 and Paul and Liza Clements in a Buzz.

In the B Handicap Fleet it was Graham Cranford-Smith who mastered the conditions best to win Gold by 40 seconds in front of Errol Edwards closely followed by George Simpkins both sailing Solos.

The very impressive fleet of 26 lasers was won by grand master Peter Sherwin, with Damian Boreham taking Silver and Duncan Whitrow, Bronze.

The Olympic themed prizes for the evening were kindly donated by the RYA as part of their Sail for Gold campaign to inspire more people to become more active in sailing on the back of London 2012.



## Solo report

The summer is now over but the lake is completely full, which is unusual at this time of the year. We are normally traipsing mud around the clubhouse and dragging weed around the lake. There have been a few of our older brethren who have sold their boats this year, some within the club, but the Solo numbers have been maintained and we have 40 within the fleet. The latest of these is Simon Chapman, who has finally seen the error of his ways, sold his Phantom and purchased a new Winder, unfortunately he has not been finding the time to sail it due to all the second honeymoons he's been taking!

The racing since the last report has been quite fragmented, a great variety of helms but not many who have qualified for the series. In the summer points Andy Hewitt took the honours but with no other solos qualifying. The Admirals chase which was switched to the mornings to encourage entries, has done this overall but the solos had only Steve Turner qualify in 14<sup>th</sup> place. So some feedback please, do you want the Admirals chase



to return to the afternoon? Wed eve series well attended as usual with some 20+ solo helms. Chris Goldhawk was the man to beat with Graham Cranford-Smith in 2<sup>nd</sup> place with George Simpkins (Wooden Boat) in 3<sup>rd</sup> and Errol (Wooden Boat) in 4<sup>th</sup>. It just goes to show that there is life in the old dogs yet, the boats that is! In the Rose Bowl Chris Goldhawk was 4<sup>th</sup> with Andy Hewitt in 7<sup>th</sup>. Anniversary cup Andy Hewitt came in 4<sup>th</sup> with Steve Penfold in 7<sup>th</sup>. In the Mercury Macklin, Melvin and Watts trophies (Age) we had in the Under 35's Steve Penfold in 3<sup>rd</sup>, 35 - 44 Andy Hewitt in 4<sup>th</sup>, 45 - 54 Marcus Davies in 4<sup>th</sup>. Debbie McGrane was 6<sup>th</sup> in her class but I'm far too much of a gentleman to mention which category (under 35's maybe).

The western area opens have been running as usual this year and there have been 5 participants from Chew. Myself, Chris G, Brian Kitching, Andy H and Marcus Davies. As I'm the only one to have made the requisite number of events so far I stand at the top of the leader



board, that has to be a first in itself. Although as I write this Teign Corinthians has taken place and Frampton is next week, so it probably won't be for long. As I am the co-ordinator for the western area why don't those of you who don't travel come along for an open or two. Brian Kitching is the fleet captain at Frampton and our support would be appreciated. A very friendly small cub. Worth the short journey up the M5.

Sunday the 7<sup>th</sup> October is now designated a class race day which will see 4 races 3 to count. Come along and join in, there will be prizes on the day. The Club prize giving is on Sat 10<sup>th</sup> November, please support the evening, there will be a talk by Penny Tranter of BBC weather fame.

Anyone wanting to try a Solo please contact me.

Nick Fisher

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## Training Courses

The Spring RYA courses were oversubscribed again earlier this year and interestingly mainly involved youth sailors and similarly the Autumn course were also full and there is now a list of those that have shown an interest in the Spring 2013 courses. The profile of the RYA instruction at the club has changed significantly in the last 2 years and as interest continues to increase, we will continue to train more instructors and develop the skills of those we have at the moment.

We are running the Adult RYA levels 1 to 3 and the Youth stages 1 to 4 and intend to introduce the additional modules of seamanship skills, start racing, sailing with spinnakers, performance sailing and day sailing if there is interest from the club members.

We have also had requests for the RYA Day Skipper theory course and so again if there is sufficient interest then we will see what can be arranged. RYA Instructors for this course would be from outside the club and so the course fee might be higher than we charge for other RYA courses but if numbers are good then this can be minimised.

I am grateful to those instructors who offered their time to the RYA courses this year and indeed their involvement in the Junior Challenge programme and Thursday evening sailing and hope that more become involved next year, particularly those who attended the inaugural CVLSC Assistant Dinghy Instructor course that was run in early September. The ADI course enables those that would like to help with the training to have a greater understanding of the teaching methods used and potentially offers a route towards an RYA dinghy instructor course and qualification or simply the ability to make a more valuable contribution to the training that takes place at the club.

If you are interested in doing one of the RYA courses, would like some additional training or indeed would like to consider the CVLSC ADI course then let me know and I will send you details.

Rob Mitchell

[training.cvlsc@gmail.com](mailto:training.cvlsc@gmail.com)



## Handicap fleet report

By definition, the handicap fleet is far more diverse than the other fleets at Chew with a wide range of classes and sailors. Many of these have been out on the road over the summer and the results testify to the strength of the competition which we enjoy at Chew.

Starting close to home, three Chew Scorpions travelled to Paignton where our race officer was one time Chew member Ken Falcon. In a competitive fleet of 57 boats Peter and John Rose finished 7<sup>th</sup>, Andrew and Thomas Rose 24<sup>th</sup> and Dave Bennett and Dale Giles 41<sup>st</sup>. Dave also won the Bronze fleet division. We had a great time all week including the social events and Judy Rose also got in on the act by winning the treasure hunt and the quiz. Derian and Andy Scott had another successful week at the Fireballs, coming 8<sup>th</sup> out of 57 in a windy week at Penzance. Earlier in the year they finished in 13<sup>th</sup> place in the Fireball Worlds in Australia.

Moving on to the hairier, scarier boats, the Cherubs went to Pwllheli for big wind and waves. The results suggest it was something of a demolition derby in which fewer than half of the 23 strong fleet completed half of the races. Paul Croote and Tom Hole were 6<sup>th</sup> overall despite having to count a DNC. Paul and Liza Clements campaign came to a premature end when Paul put his shoulder out – we expected epic tales of pitch-poling in the Pwllheli rollers but no; it was caused by excess of enthusiasm in the Welly Wanging competition. Two Chew boats competed in the Musto Skiff world championships at Weymouth in the lead up to the Olympics. In a fleet of 105 boats, Ian Collis Smith and Paul Whitesmith continued their private duel finishing 59<sup>th</sup> and 62<sup>nd</sup>, separated by just 7 points.

Chew was well represented at the RS100 championships with no fewer than four of our finest travelling to Paignton in June. In a fleet of 37, Dave Smart finished 12<sup>th</sup>, Simon Bennett 14<sup>th</sup>, Ian Maclean 18<sup>th</sup> and Nick Edmonds 26<sup>th</sup>. Our RS200 fleet was represented by Dave and Jeannie Oakey who went to the championships at Exmouth and finished 77<sup>th</sup> in a large and competitive fleet of 87 boats. No Chew boats at the RS800s this year but ex member Ralph Singleton was there and finished 17<sup>th</sup>.

Back to some more singlehanders, Andy Harris finished 6<sup>th</sup> in a fleet of 13 Europes at Brixham in June. The Contenders went to Torquay in September where Ed Presley finished 32<sup>nd</sup> in a fleet of 42. The event was won by Ben McGrane, who many will remember as a member of the Chew youth squad in his younger days.

Apologies to anyone I may have missed in this championships roundup – let me know and I'll include in the next report. I'm expecting great things from John Shimell at the K1 nationals this weekend.

Back at home the Wednesday evening series was as hotly contested as ever. There were fifty four entrants and eighteen qualifiers in the A fleet this year. The seventeen races produced twelve different race winners from nine different classes (RS500, Flying-Fifteen, RS200, Fireball, RS700, Scorpion, Buzz, Musto-Skiff and RS400). The top six places in the series went to



Pos	Helm	Crew	Class	Pts
1 <sup>st</sup>	Ian Cadwallader	Nick Stone	Flying Fifteen	22
2 <sup>nd</sup>	Paul Clements	Lisa Clements	Buzz	30
3 <sup>rd</sup>	Dave Sweet	Jackie Ireland	RS200	32
4 <sup>th</sup>	Peter Rose	Fiona Wisloff	Scorpion	41
5 <sup>th</sup>	John Smalley	Will Jefferis	Fireball	41
6 <sup>th</sup>	Ian Collis-Smith		Musto Skiff	42

Ian and Nick sailed consistently well to win, never finishing outside the top six.

Once again the B fleet proved a tough nut to crack for the slower handicap fleet boats and the Solo dominance was only broken by Primrose Salt in a Streaker who won two races and was 5<sup>th</sup> overall out of 9 qualifiers and 44 entrants. It would be good to see a few more of the Laser 2000, Wayfarers and Visions taking part and getting more out of their spinnakers to spice up competition in the Wednesday B fleet.

During the summer we ran a trial during which the Solo fleet start on the Sunday was opened to youth and B handicap fleet boats. I believe this was good for the handicap fleet competitors who took advantage of it and Alex and Martha Dick secured second place in their National 12. Understandably, there are some in the Solo fleet who wish to revert to a single class start and this is only fair, given the strength of their fleet. The sailing committee will keep this under review and may consider inking the B fleet and Solos again in some series. For the time being we shall return to a single handicap fleet start for all as I do not believe the cadre of regular "B handicap" boats is large enough, consistently, to warrant a separate start. Moreover the handicap separation between an Europe, say, and an RS200 really is only around 10%, whereas the separation between the RS200 and a Musto Skiff or RS700 is nearer to 20%, which begs a broader debate about where to put the division if we were to divide the handicap fleet on Sundays.

The Admiral's chase has been the subject of much debate in the sailing committee and we have yet to finalise the format for 2013. In general it is not favoured by sailors from the three established classes although there are exceptions. From my own perspective, it is the second best handicap series in the club (after Wednesdays) because it brings everyone together in a single series and is the closest thing we have to an open club championship. The trophy is the most attractive series trophy in the club and in recent years has been won most often by a Laser or Flying Fifteen. The series has been well supported since it has been running in the mornings but was less well supported when it used to be the final race in the afternoon. I would welcome views from the broader handicap fleet as to whether the format is enjoyed and how long the races should be (both time and number of laps). I am usually in the bar after sailing on a Sunday.

Peter Rose  
Scorpion 1995



## Flying Fifteen Report

As Max pointed out in his last report, the Chew Fifteen fleet has never been in better shape. There have been even more additions and changes since May, so I'd like to extend a warm welcome to our new fleet members. Robert Pitts with 3597 has been seen out practising regularly and clearly enjoying his boat. We've also attracted a couple of Fireball sailors: Peter Gifford and David Nash have moved to the Fifteen fleet and will be sailing 3942.

Some changes too among the established fleet. Simon and Catherine Millington have their own boat (3787) at the club and are putting in some good results - it seems putting two crews in a boat isn't necessarily as risky as you'd think! And finally Danny Pilgrim just took delivery of another newer boat, 3826, and made a good start on his first time out with Mike Thompson delivering a master-class from the front of the boat.

All this has meant great turnouts on the start line for club racing, and good numbers of boats qualifying for the series.

The Spring Points series saw 12 boats competing overall, 5 qualifying, and the end result couldn't have been any closer: the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> placed boats completed all 18 races, tied on points, and the result was decided on count-back and had to go to the number of 2<sup>nd</sup> place finishes! Well done to everyone for making this such a competitive series.

As I write the Summer Points series has recently ended: 15 entries, 5 qualifiers again, and some different names in the final results. Well done Doug and Gail in first place, and Mike and Sandra completing the series in 2870.



Outside the Fifteen Fleet series, and mixing it with the rest of the club, Ian Cadwallader and Nick Stone won the hotly-contested Wednesday Evening (A) series – perhaps the toughest series in the club calendar. Ian also managed to retain the Anniversary Cup (I reckon it's the crew that makes the difference in these long pursuit races!).

Away from Chew, some of the fleet have travelled to

some great Fifteen events around the UK and further afield.

Early in the season, Ian and Dave travelled to Hayling and finished second in their prestigious Bulwark Trophy – against some extremely fast competition. In June, three boats travelled to Cowes for a breezy Southern Championship and some fantastic planning conditions in the Solent. Ian and Dave finished 6<sup>th</sup>, Mike and Simon 15<sup>th</sup>, and Catherine helped me get a 21<sup>st</sup>.



At the Nationals in Largs we were represented by Mike and Simon finishing 13<sup>th</sup>, and Catherine crewing her Dad David to 22<sup>nd</sup> place.

And then to Lake Garda for the Europeans! Three Chew boats travelled. Some of us opted to make it a family holiday and flew down, sending the boats with Tony Ainsworth and his amazing trailers – for those who asked, here's a picture:

Loading and unloading was not a trivial task!

Garda mostly lived up to expectations. What we didn't expect was the storm on the day before racing started – it came down from the mountains, with a couple of hours of gale-force winds, continuous thunder, and very painful golf-ball sized hailstones. Lots of dented cars in the sailing club car park! Three boats were out for a practice – none from Chew, we'd all seen the clouds coming – happily all made it safely back to the shore but



only after having to shelter under dropped sails in the middle of the lake through the worst of the storm.

Once the racing was under way we saw the classic Garda conditions for 5 days of great racing. Air temperature in the 30s, water temperature low 20s, and 15 knots of breeze. The video produced by the sailing club shows just how good it was – and somehow all the Chew boats managed to feature heavily in it. I can't think of a

better way to promote Fifteen sailing, take a look at it here: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DBbR7em5vgc&feature=plcp>

All the Chew boats managed to put in some good races, and our final positions were:  
Ian Cadwallader and Dave Sweet: 14<sup>th</sup>

David Brockbank and Catherine Millington: 18<sup>th</sup>  
Bill Chard and Simon Millington: 22<sup>nd</sup>

That's all for now, but don't forget the autumn and winter series can offer some of the best sailing at Chew and with the growing fleet we should see even more boats on the start line – let's see if we can get up to 10 or more on a regular basis.

See you on the water.

Bill (FF 3862).

## Junior report

It's been a very busy season amongst our Juniors this year. With approximately 40 young sailors sailing pretty much every Sunday, from complete beginner to fledgling racer, to extra coaching days provided by the RYA for our novice racers as well as seasoned top Topper sailors, and the Feva training driven by Reuben Woodbridge, we have seen more and more of the club's sailors joining in and even beginning to race in the main fleet, which we will continue to encourage next season after training in the morning. August Antics over the Bank Holiday weekend was a particularly enjoyable highlight in the Junior calendar and thanks go to Colin Walsh and Katrina Darke for bravely taking this over from Adrian Cudmore – long may it continue! Cadets for our teenage contingent also trialed on the Thursday Evening sailing slots and we are now looking for ways in which to develop opportunities for our 14+ sailors.

The parents and volunteer instructors have as usual been fantastic in the time that they have given up and the Junior Programme has become as much about sailing as about an opportunity for all our Junior members to get to know each other, form partnerships as some of the older ones go into double handed Fevas, and generally have fun sailing with each other. Special thanks must go to John



Austin, Pierre Fox, Darren Haine, Mark Fordham, Georgia and Ella Comrie, Cameron Scott and Kit Lawson –Johns for giving so much of their time as well as to the other instructors who have been able to help. Thanks also must go to Pete Barnes who has been diligent in maintaining the club boats and keeping all in good order.

We finished off our season with a well attended and enjoyable prize giving lunch. Prizes abounded in a range of categories from Most Improved to Cheshire Cat to Daredevil of the Year. The Junior Challenge, always hotly contested, was a close call between three very promising young sailors, Liz Widdecombe, Lizzie Fowler and Callum Haine. In the end Lizzie Fowler took the



cup, closely followed by Callum Haine (2<sup>nd</sup>) and Liz Widdecombe (3<sup>rd</sup>). However the real highlight for me was last weekend's RYA South West Regional Zone Championships hosted by CVLSC in which so many of our youth sailors entered. A whole range of abilities and ages from the club were represented from Fevas, Toppers down to the Regatta Fleet boats and it was a great opportunity for the club's children to meet other youth sailors from visiting clubs and experience, for many of them the first time, the excitement of a National Regional

Open. Photographs of the event can be found on the club's Flickr account set up by the event's photographer, Errol Edwards.

We're looking forward to next season's sailing calendar, but to really squeeze out every last bit of this year's sailing opportunities, 49 adventurous parents and children from the club will be sailing forth to the Mountbatten Centre on Plymouth at the end of October to experience some coastal sailing on a residential weekend which, if successful, we hope to make an annual event. Happy sailing to all our Juniors!

Ali Woodiwiss and the gang

## Lake and cake

In an unpredictable year, the weather has been kind to us!! For the first session, I'd been watching the forecast all week and wondering if we'd get on the water. It was breezy in the morning but by 2 o'clock it had settled to a gentle breeze from the east and the sun was trying hard. After a short briefing and introductions, eleven intrepid ladies ventured onto the water – seven in single handers, two with Peter Sherwin in good old Hilda May (the club wayfarer) and two with Derian Scott and Anne Dwyer in the club Fevas and the Swales family tried out their new Otter. We had a very simple brief – sail out and back on a reach to start with, come in for a rest if you want to, do more if you want to and *have fun!!* I stayed on the shore to help launch and landing and Steve kept a watchful eye in a rib and offered encouragement. Everyone stayed out for over an hour practising and looking increasingly confident and competent. A lovely afternoon came to a very jolly and sociable end over tea and yummy cake.

In June it was windier, we ventured out to practise some upwind sailing which a few diligently did but then decided to reach up and down and go fast!! Great fun, great company and great cake.

Despite my rather ad hoc publicity, word had got around and by September 15<sup>th</sup> we had fif-



teen lady sailors on the water taking part in a couple of impromptu races, follow my leader tack- ing and gybing or having a gentle sail on our lovely lake. The cakes were amazing and plentiful !! Thank you Pete, Steve, Derian and Anne and everyone who has made cake  
The last "lake and cake" for 2012 is on Saturday October 6<sup>th</sup>, weather permitting. Ladies if you'd like to join in, do get in touch.

Helen Martin (helen.martin@sandsfoothouse.co.uk)

## Feva report

After a promising start in the Spring it proved difficult to get all the club RS Feva sailors together for any training over much of the summer.

However, four RS Feva's from Chew sailed in the World Championships at Hayling Island in July.

This was a seven day event and miraculously after weeks of rain the sun shone for the whole time. Unfortunately our sailors struggled in the light winds and large fleet of 180 boats crewed by an astonishing number of very good young sailors. The best placed Chew boat was Nick Edmonds sailing with his 10 year old daughter Alice, who qualified for the gold fleet and finished a very creditable 51st. For all of us though it was a great experience on and off the water. It was a very friendly and brilliantly run event and though the racing was taken very seriously the emphasis was very much on making sure everyone had a good time. We certainly all enjoyed ourselves and it was a pleasure to spend the week in such good company.

Back home the intention is to try and fit in some regular Feva training sessions now that the Junior Sunday's and all the RYA training has come to an end, if you not on my email list and would like to know more then do please contact me.

The number of young sailors interested in learning how to sail the Feva and wanting to start racing continues to grow, so I'm hopeful the boats bright yellow sails will be come a familiar sight on the lake.



## Laser Open

I cannot remember a Laser Open at Chew where everyone sailed with a radial rig!! A *very* windy day has been forecast and we wondered how many Chew sailors and visitors would actually turn up. About 30 boats arrived, we all looked at the wind and the waves and discussed the conditions. Dave Sweet gathered the sailors together and it was agreed that racing should go ahead with a triangular course to avoid the run!! Many of us decided that discretion was the better part of valour and stayed ashore to watch the intrepid and highly skilled few who did launch, didn't break anything, stayed upright and made it round the course!! 14 lasers and 2 solos actually started although not everyone finished both races.

With no committee boat the start was from the shore, a beat up to the first mark positioned near B, then reaches to marks near 4 and 0.....so some spectacular viewing from the club house of fast reaches with flying spray and some hairy capsize - the safety boat crews did a great job, ably coordinated by Pete Rose. Thank you everyone.

Positions in both races changed a lot, staying upright being a very significant factor!! There was a long gap between race 1

and 2 while the windward mark was repositioned having dragged its anchor. After race 2 the wind had become so strong, gusting well over 30 knots, that racing was abandoned for the day.

The full results are on the website.

First radial was John Ling from Upton Warren SC with a 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup>, second radial and 1<sup>st</sup> Chew boat was Andrew Southall with a 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> and third radial was Andy Rose also from Chew with a 7<sup>th</sup> and 1<sup>st</sup>.

First 4.7 was Rob Dyer from Sutton Bingham. He was 6<sup>th</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> on the water and 5<sup>th</sup> overall, which indicates just how windy it was. First lady, also sailing a 4.7, was Ellie Hitchings from Chew.

Helen Martin



## Want to see some more photos.....?

If you like the photos in this newsletter you can see more like them on a website set up by Errol Edwards, which currently contains photos by Errol and fellow CVLSC member, Primrose Salt. If you think you've got a good sailing photo taken at Chew or of Chew sailors competing elsewhere, send them to Errol at [cvlscfoto@yahoo.com](mailto:cvlscfoto@yahoo.com) and they will include them on the website. If you'd like to volunteer to help maintain this website, contact Errol

at [solo4069@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:solo4069@yahoo.co.uk) or call him on 07401939777.



## We've all done our bit for the Olympics

Unless you have read this on-line already, by the time you read it in your Newsletter the Olympics will have finished and CVLSC will have done its bit to support the games – especially so the Olympic Sailing Events; none more so than Club members Helen Martin and Steve Turner.

Helen Martin has been part of the Results Team on the finish boat, and partner Steve Turner has been a Course Marshall.

However the enthusiasm for the Olympics overall has also been demonstrated in all communities and none more so than with the local branches of the Women's Institute in the Valley and surrounding districts. The WI wanted to create a fun type Torch run of their own and so decided that they would all unite by passing an Olympic Torch (replica of course) from one branch of the WI to another on its journey around the Valley.



As I understand it "Transport" was put forward as the being the theme for each WI group, and so the club was approached and asked if the torch could be carried by the Chew Stoke WI group to the Bishop Sutton group by sailing it across Chew Valley Lake in a dinghy; the initial transport to Woodford Lodge entrance being on horseback.

With no opposition from BW and with total support from the Sailing Club, this leg of the torch journey took place on Saturday the 7<sup>th</sup> of July at 12 noon. A Wayfarer sailed by Peter Cheek and myself, with Shirley Marsh carrying the torch, was the chosen mode of transport.

We set off from the Club Pontoon in a fairly brisk breeze, in fact brisk enough to get the boat and torch to the slipway at the Picnic Area some minutes before the main party could drive around from the club to meet us. Also waiting were the Bishop Sutton WI who, following a little light refreshment, were then going to take the torch on its next leg to Temple Cloud.

OK so it's not quite the real thing, but it does demonstrate the eagerness and attitude being



shown by folk in the valley to get involved with the Olympics. Especially so the enthusiasm demonstrated by the various WI groups and the Sailing Clubs willingness to get involved in community activities; we are a part of this community and it was our pleasure to be a part of their enthusiasm.

Brian Brooks W8016

## Olympic games makers at Chew

Wed 26<sup>th</sup> Sept, our new social secretary scooped the local news channels with Helen Martin & Steve Turner, local sailors turned games makers. The evening started with a fine curry provided by Doug in the Galley, a great pint of 6X and the tension began to build as the projector was switched on and we were away.



Helen was on the Omega boat recording the results; obviously this was only necessary as the boats rounded the leeward mark so she was able to watch some of the racing in between. Steve was driving the Rib containing the RYA technical director Baz Edmonds and was in charge of marshalling the media boats.

We were treated to an interesting evening, starting at the very beginning in 2010 when they applied to Locog to be games makers. The initial application had to be in 80 words or less, not an easy task, summarising their experience and why they were suitable to be games makers.

This completed, they were called upon for various events over the next 18 months and were involved in sail for gold and other championships at Weymouth. All this went according to plan and selection to the games was assured. If you watched the sailing on the TV you will have noted the atmosphere; even through the screen it was energising, and to Helen, a Weymouth girl born and bred, it brought her close to tears. Indeed, as she spoke last night, she was a little misty eyed as she recalled events.

There was a Q & A session which prompted the audience to come up with some unusual and varied queries. Following a short break there was an auction of Olympic & Paralympic place vests that the sailors wore to indicate their standings during the series, the proceeds going to CLADS.

The auctioneer for the evening was yours truly. Helen and Steve had paid to have the first three vests framed and had had them signed by competitors and they were accompanied by an official release certificate. As with any auction bidding was slow on the first lot, well, when I say slow it was non-existent! With reserves of £50 on the main items there was silence in the room. With no bids forthcoming the auctioneer put in the reserve bid and it was not contested. So, for £50 I got a framed, signed shirt which I felt was better donated to the club for display than gathering dust on my wall at home. Once the ice was broken, and with another pint of beer the auction got into full swing. The cry of "I don't know why I'm bidding I don't even want it" was heard, but hey it's for a good cause so it doesn't matter. The total raised was over £650, a good nights work. There was a 4<sup>th</sup> games maker vest which Helen & Steve donated to Clevedon school (where she used to teach) where my wife will wear it at the Staff cross country in a few weeks time and it will then be auctioned off for school funds.

A good start to Steve's tenure as social secretary, an excellent talk thoroughly enjoyed by the 60 or so people who turned up.

Nick Fisher  
Sailing secretary

## The Social Calendar

Well the summer is drawing to a close and the nights are getting longer, which means less time on the water. To keep the club lively we have some exciting social events lined up over the winter period.

### **Friday the 19th of October 2012**

#### **Quiz Night – Racing rules.**

The format will be in the style of "A Question of Sport" with two teams consisting of a captain and two team members. An audience is very much welcomed, where there will be opportunities for them to participate. So come along, enjoy the fun, and grab a drink at the bar. Also an ideal time to brush up on your racing rules.

### **Friday the 30th of November 2012**

#### **Wine and Cheese evening**

We are in the process of trying to arrange a Wine and Cheese evening.

**Please keep an eye on the clubs website and notice board for further details.**

### **Friday the 8th of February 2013**

#### **Olympic speaker from TeamGB**

We are in the process of trying to organise a speaker from the TeamGB sailing team at the London 2012 Olympics to discuss the great success of TeamGB and what the future holds, and how to get involved.

**Please keep your eye on the club website and notice board for further details.**

#### **Social activities at CVLSC**

As always we are continuously looking for ideas and volunteers to help keep our social calendar busy. So if you have an idea for an event or if you would be prepared to put on an event

then please get in touch. Even if you just want to assist with things like manning the bar on the day then your help will be much appreciated.

See you all soon.

Steve Nash

Social Secretary

Email: [Steven\\_Nash@compuserve.com](mailto:Steven_Nash@compuserve.com) Tel:

01275 394588

**Please remember to keep your eye on the club website and notice board for any last minute**

**changes. <http://>**

**[www.chewvalleysailing.org.uk](http://www.chewvalleysailing.org.uk)**

